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NO. 36APPROVED
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AUTHORITY

HOUSE of SECRETS

*"The
CREATURE
COSTUMES!"*

WHEN I PLACE
THIS HEAD-DESS
ON YOU, YOU TOO
WILL BECOME ONE
OF MY BAND OF
INVINCIBLE
CREATURES!

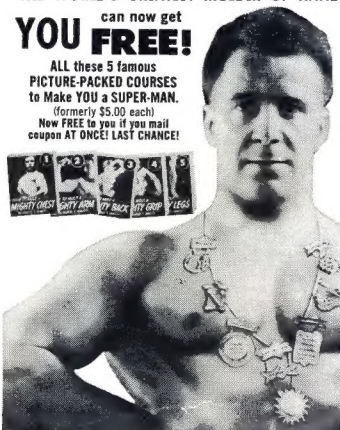


A
MARK
MERLIN
MYSTERY

THE WORLD'S GREATEST MOLDER OF HANDSOME HE-MEN and CHAMPS out of WEAKLINGS says

YOU can now get FREE!

ALL these 5 famous PICTURE-PACKED COURSES to Make YOU a SUPER-MAN. (formerly \$5.00 each) Now FREE to you if you mail coupon AT ONCE! LAST CHANCE!



"NO MATTER WHAT YOUR AGE I'll show you, by my quick, easy SECRETS

How to GAIN OR LOSE UP TO 50 LBS. FAST

like my pupils here did and THOUSANDS do now."

17 YEAR OLD SILLS



"I GAINED 60 LBS. OF SHAPELY MIGHTY MUSCLES."

BEFORE

mailing coupon, I was a 125 lb. 6 ft. skinny weakling.

says JOHN SILL.

YOU can add

7 inches to your CHEST 3 1/2 inches to each ARM and the rest in proportion just as I did.



YOU CAN WIN THE 18" TALL SILVER TROPHY with name on it, A GOLD MEDAL, \$100, as I did."

45 year old FATHER and 18 year old SON — now Pals — train JOWETT way together!



"Both gained pounds of power muscles. Advise all you fathers and sons to send for the Jowett courses without foolish delay."

—LARRY CAMPBELL

"I LOST 30 LBS. OF DANGEROUS UGLY FAT 4 INCHES OFF MY WAIST!"



"That 220 lb. FAT-BOY at the right was ME a few short weeks ago."

JOWETT streamlined my body, made me a new man my 47" chest my 32" waist 15" difference attracts admiration at the beach.

28 year old Felipe Mendoza

A WINNING CHAMPION and SPORTSMAN.

"I am just 41 years YOUNG now,

I LOST POUNDS OF FAT FAST. Regardless of age, should send for your courses. Soon they'll be as proud as I am."

Paul Lange

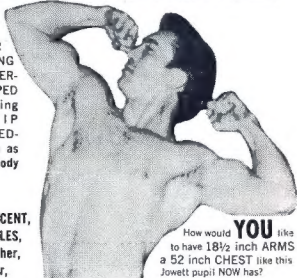


SKINNY OR FAT, 15, 20, 30 OR 40 YEARS OF AGE I'LL BUILD YOU INTO A NEW ATHLETIC MIGHTY-MUSCLED ALL-MALE HE-MAN!

in 10 THRILLING MINUTES a day, as I have done to MILLIONS in 35 YEARS."

GEORGE JOWETT

4 TIMES WINNER WORLD'S STRONGEST AND MOST PERFECTLY DEVELOPED MAN title, wearing CHAMPIONSHIP MEDALS, and MEDALS honoring him as "WORLD'S BEST Body Builder"



This now MAGNIFICENT, MODERN HERCULES, 26 year old teacher, William Butler,

says to YOU, "No matter WHAT your age, I advise you, SEND for the JOWETT WONDER PICTURE COURSES at once.

Under the World's GREATEST BODY-BUILDER, George Jowett, I now have 18 1/2" ARMS, a 52" CHEST my STRENGTH has greatly improved. So have my sports. I have won titles like 'Mr. Virginia', 'Mr. State Y.M.C.A.', etc."

YOU can soon be a HERO of MEN like Butler is and an IDOL of WOMEN in a few weeks!

Yes! In just 10 THRILLING MINUTES a day, in the SECRECY of YOUR OWN ROOM at home, MY RAPID-FIRE, EASY as ABC FAMOUS PICTURE METHODS will start building you THE VERY FIRST NIGHT. I'll show you How to Mold 18 INCH ARMS of MIGHT, a big deep 45 INCH CHEST housing TIRELESS LUNGS, WIDE MANLY SHOULDERS — a BROAD BRAWNY BACK, tapering to a SLENDER WAIST with punch-proof STOMACH MUSCLES, LEGS of RUNNING POWER.

WOMEN always say, "I just adore JOWETT ALL-MALE HE-MEN".

NO! I don't care how skinny or flabby you are now. If you're in your teens, twenties, thirties or forties, I'll show you in just 10 thrilling minutes in your home, how you can make yourself over by the easy, quick method I turned myself from wreck to WORLD CHAMPION and turned MILLIONS of others into all-male he-men!

YES! You'll ADD INCHES of MIGHTY MUSCLES to your ARMS, deepen your CHEST, broaden your BACK and SHOULDERS. FROM HEAD to HEELS you'll gain SIZE, POWER, LIGHTNING SPEED ENDURANCE. You'll become a SUCCESSFUL HE-MAN in LOOKS and ACTS — a WINNER in EVERYTHING — athletics, business, studies.



"I'm proud of you now, Tony"

Pascalella

BEFORE

mailing coupon this JOWETT pupil was this 90 lb. skeleton. Gained 70 lbs. Made football team.

You wouldn't give me a tumble before I gained 28 JOWETT lbs.

JOWETT INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL TRAINING, Dept. NC-09 220 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, N. Y.

Dear George: Mail me FREE all 5 HE-MAN Building Picture Courses. Include PHOTO BOOK of FAMOUS STRONG MEN.

- ☐ I enclose 10c for mailing and handling.
- I am under no other obligation.
- I'm checking everything I need to give me the kind of body I want.
- ☐ I want to gain _____ lbs. (fill in). ☐ Triple my strength.
- ☐ I want to streamline my body, get rid of flabby fat.
- ☐ I want to add inches of muscle to my ☐ ARMS ☐ CHEST ☐ SHOULDERS ☐ POWERFUL LEGS ☐ SLIM WAIST
- ☐ I want to become a winning athlete. ☐ I want new pep.

NAME _____ (please print or write plainly) AGE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

FREE

\$80 worth of Sports, Self-defense, Strong-man Stunts Courses Apparatus. Let me know how to get these FREE!

THE JUNGLE ECHOED WITH THEIR WEIRD CRIES... AND BOTH MAN AND BEAST FLED IN TERROR FROM THESE UNEARTHLY CREATURES! ONLY MARK MERLIN, FAMOUS SLEUTH OF THE SUPERNATURAL, DARED TO CHALLENGE THE MYSTERIOUS MENACE... BUT A FATE WORSE THAN DEATH AWAITED THE GALLANT INVESTIGATOR, WHEN HE DONNED ONE OF...

the CREATURE COSTUMES



A
**MARK
MERLIN**
MYSTERY

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HOUSE OF SECRETS, No. 36, September, 1960 issue. Published monthly by NATIONAL COMICS PUBLICATIONS, INC., 2nd and Dickey Streets, SPARTA, ILL. Editorial, Executive offices and Subscriptions, 575 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK 22, N. Y. Editors: Jack Schiff; Associate Editors: Murray Boltinoff, George Koshdan. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT SPARTA, ILL. under the act of March 3, 1879. Yearly subscription in the U. S. \$1.00 including postage. Foreign \$3.00 in American funds. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co., 206

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Printed in U.S.A.



HOUSE OF SECRETS



IN THE OFFICE OF MARK MERLIN,
FAR-FAMED SUPERNATURAL SLEUTH...



MARK...THERE'S A--
A STRANGE MAN
HERE TO SEE
YOU!

STRANGE?
SHOW HIM IN,
ELSA!

I LOWANNA,
HEADMAN OF
PERUVIAN
JUNGLE VILLAGE!
I COME BECAUSE
VISITOR FROM
YOUR COUNTRY
SAY ONLY
YOU CAN
HELP ME!

ER--WHAT'S
YOUR TROUBLE,
LOWANNA?



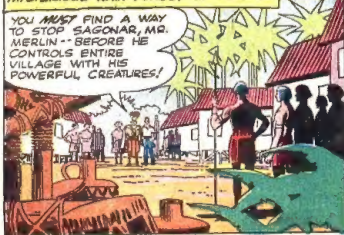
MANY MOONS AGO, I CHASE
SAGONAR, EVIL WITCH DOCTOR
FROM MY VILLAGE! THEN, LATER,
SAGONAR RETURN WITH
ARMY OF STRANGE
CREATURES, WHO HAVE
GREAT POWERS!
ALREADY, THEY
HAVE DESTROYED
MANY OTHER
VILLAGES!



HMM...I WASN'T
EXACTLY COUNTING
ON A LONG TRIP
AT THIS TIME...

BUT YOU CAN'T
RESIST INVESTIGATING
THOSE CREATURES, I
KNOW! I'LL CALL
THE AIRLINE NOW,
MARK!

SO SOME DAYS LATER, IN A VILLAGE BORDERING THE
MYSTERIOUS RAIN FOREST OF PERU...



YOU MUST FIND A WAY
TO STOP SAGONAR, MR.
MERLIN--BEFORE HE
CONTROLS ENTIRE
VILLAGE WITH HIS
POWERFUL CREATURES!



SUDDENLY...

LOWANNA!
SAGONAR AND
CREATURES--
THEY ATTACKING
OUR VILLAGE
NOW!



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NEXT MOMENT, AS CRIES OF FEAR MINGLE WITH UNEARTHLY ROARS OF RAGE...



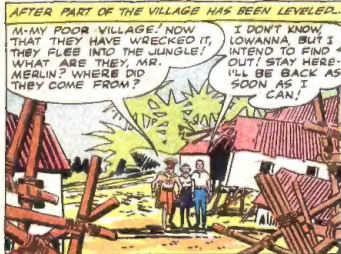
GOOD GRIEF, MARK--LOOK! THOSE FANTASTIC CREATURES ARE KNOCKING OVER THE HOUSES OF THE VILLAGERS!

Y-YES... AND THE SPEARS CAN'T HARM THEM!

AFTER PART OF THE VILLAGE HAS BEEN LEVELED...

M-MY POOR VILLAGE! NOW THAT THEY HAVE WRECKED IT, THEY FLEE INTO THE JUNGLE! WHAT ARE THEY, MR. MERLIN? WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?

I DON'T KNOW, LOWANNA, BUT I INTEND TO FIND OUT! STAY HERE-- I'LL BE BACK AS SOON AS I CAN!



HOURS LATER, AS MARK AND ELSA STEALTHILY TREK DEEP INTO THE UNKNOWN JUNGLE...

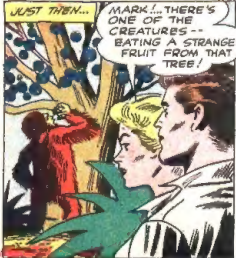
I--I'M AFRAID WE'RE JUST WALKING AROUND IN A CIRCLE, MARK!

NO, ELSA--I'VE BEEN MARKING OUR TRAIL! WHAT'S MORE, I THINK I DETECT SOUNDS!



JUST THEN...

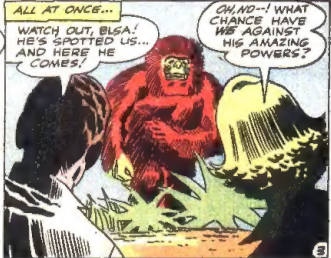
MARK!... THERE'S ONE OF THE CREATURES-- EATING A STRANGE FRUIT FROM THAT TREE!



ALL AT ONCE...

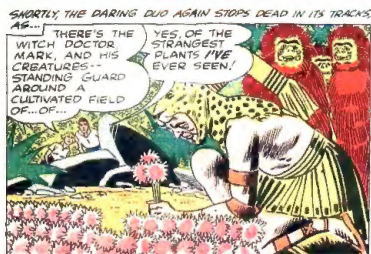
WATCH OUT, ELSA! HE'S SPOTTED US... AND HERE HE COMES!

OH, NO--! WHAT CHANCE HAVE WE AGAINST HIS AMAZING POWERS?





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BUT AS THE DETECTIVE MOVES INTO THE CLEARING...



NEXT MOMENT...





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AND WHILE ELSA LOOKS ON, HELPLESSLY...

ONE TWIST...
AND IT ON!
WELCOME TO
CREATURE
PACK!



IS IT POSSIBLE?
HAS THAT COSTUME
REALLY CHANGED
MARK?... MADE
HIM LIKE THE
OTHERS?



ELSA GETS
HER ANSWER
MOMENTS
LATER, WHEN...

HA!... JUNGLE POLICE--
SENT FROM CITY TO
ARREST US! I TEACH
THEM TO COME HERE!
AFTER
THEM!

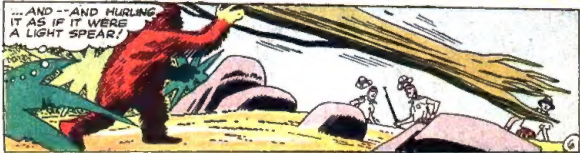


HOARSE CRIES GO UP
FROM THE AROUSED
CREATURES, AS...

GOOD GRIEF!
MARK IS UPROOTING
A BIG TREE, AS
IF IT WERE A
STALK...



...AND--AND HURLING
IT AS IF IT WERE
A LIGHT SPEAR!





IT'S TRUE--TERRIBLY TRUE...HE IS LIKE THE OTHERS--A CREATURE WITH VAST POWERS--BUT IF I GOT CLOSE ENOUGH TO HIM... MAYBE I COULD REASON WITH HIM!



WAIT! THE FRUIT THAT OTHER CREATURE WAS EATING...IT MAY APPEAL TO MARK, TOO--AND GIVE ME THE CHANCE TO APPROACH HIM!



ELSA LOSES NO TIME IN FINDING A CHOICE PIECE OF THE STRANGE FRUIT--THEN...



CLOSER AND CLOSER INCHES THE DESPERATE GIRL, UNTIL...

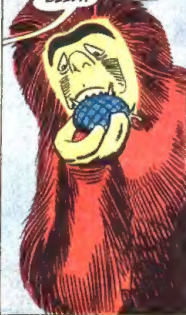
HERE MARK--SOME NICE FRUIT.

H--HE'S GROWLING UNDER HIS BREATH... BUT HE SEEMS TO BE SNIFFING IT!



HE'S EATING IT!

MARK... MARK... PLEASE LOOK AT ME! DON'T YOU REMEMBER? I'M ELSA... ELSA!



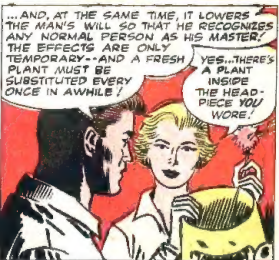
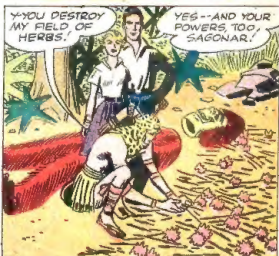
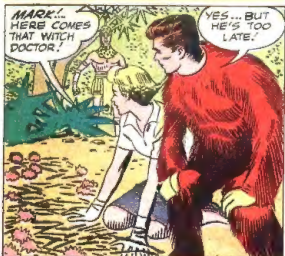
H--HE'S PEERING AT ME CLOSELY. IS--IS HE BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND?

PLEASE REMEMBER, MARK! TRY HARD--TRY HARD!



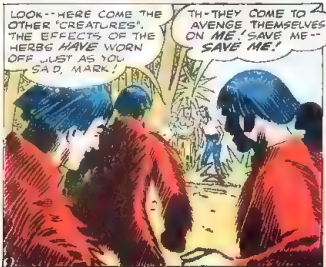
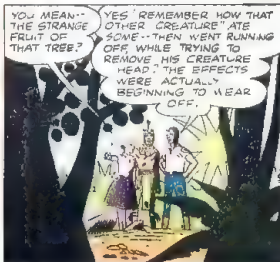


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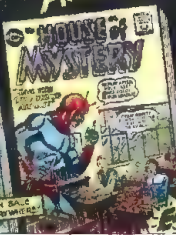




HOUSE OF SECRETS



Your Passport to AMAZING ADVENTURES!



Journey into a FANTASTIC New World **BENEATH** *the* **EARTH!**



CLIMB INTO THE
MIGHTY MOLE..

...THE AMAZING VEHICLE
THAT BURROWS BENEATH
THE EARTH'S CRUST--
AND JOIN

Cave Carson

AND HIS FRIENDS AS THEY
BATTLE BIZARRE MENACES
NEVER BEFORE ENCOUNTERED
BY MAN!

- *The* **GIANT SEA BEAST!**
- The* **LAVA CREATURE!**
- *The* **MAGNETIC MONSTER!**

Read this Thrilling
Adventure

INSIDE EARTH

IN THE LATEST
ISSUE OF...

The **BRAVE and the BOLD**



**NOW
ON SALE!**



GET THIS \$1.50
DELUXE SLIM NOTE PAD
WITH SLACK AND SIMULATED GOLF



**PLEASE
INCLUDE 10¢
TO HELP COVER
COST OF POSTAGE
AND HANDLING**



**YOU CAN MAKE \$50-\$100-\$500
AND MORE IN YOUR SPARE TIME!**

GET YOUR DELUXE GIFT NOW!

HURRY! SEND YOUR PUZZLE SOLUTION TODAY!

Don't wait if you are going to try for your Slim Note Pad. While you have the puzzle before you, solve it and rush coupon to us. We reserve the right to reject entries dated 60 days after the date of this publication. Only one entry to a family. Write to: Puzzle Editor, ARTISTIC CARD CO., INC., 421 W. 4th St., Elmira, N. Y. (In Canada, write 103 Simcoe St., Toronto 1, Ont.)

MAIL COUPON AND 10¢ TODAY

Puzzle Editor, ARTISTIC CARD CO., INC.
421 Way Street, Elmira, New York

HERE'S MY SOLUTION (CROSS OUT 8 LETTERS)

A B C D E F G H I J K ~~L~~ M N O P

Rush my Gift—also FREE Imprint Samples, Spare Time Money-Making Plans, and Christmas and All-Occasion Greeting Cards ON APPROVAL, to be paid for or returned if not satisfied. I am enclosing 10¢ to help cover cost of postage and handling.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

Check here for FUND-RAISING Plan for Organizations ☐

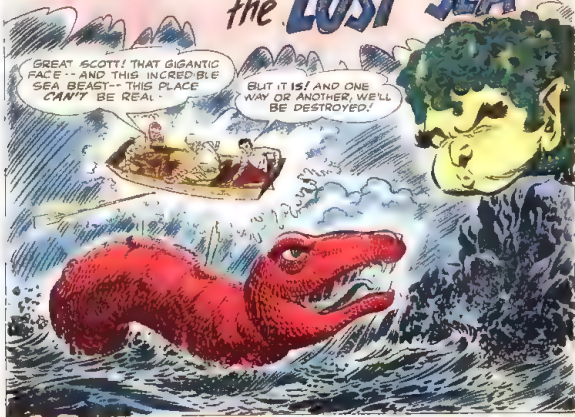


THEY NEVER BELIEVED THE EXISTENCE OF THE PLACE ON THE MAP! YET, WHEN THEY FOUND IT, ONE SURPRISE FOLLOWED ANOTHER AND THE MORE BIZZLING BECAME THE VOYAGE UNTIL THEY LEARNED...

the SECRET of the LOST SEA

GREAT SCOTT! THAT GIGANTIC FACE-- AND THIS INCREDIBLE SEA BEAST-- THIS PLACE CAN'T BE REAL!

BUT IT IS! AND ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, WE'LL BE DESTROYED!



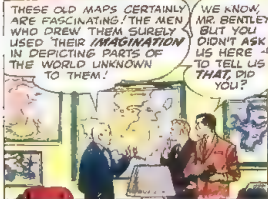
ONE DAY, AS TWO AQUATIC ADVENTURERS, JACK LARSON AND DOUG WALTERS, APPEAR AT THE HOME OF A WEALTHY MAN IN RESPONSE TO HIS INVITATION...

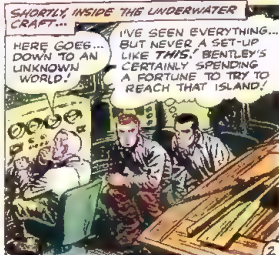
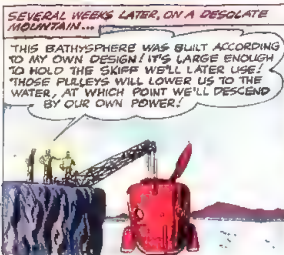
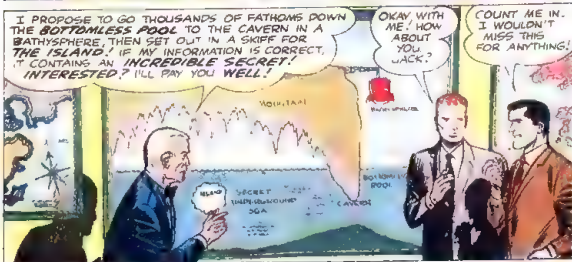
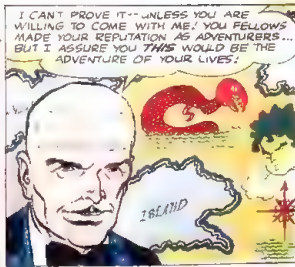
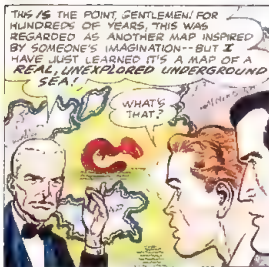
THESE OLD MAPS CERTAINLY ARE FASCINATING! THE MEN WHO DREW THEM SURELY USED THEIR IMAGINATION IN DEPICTING PARTS OF THE WORLD UNKNOWN TO THEM!

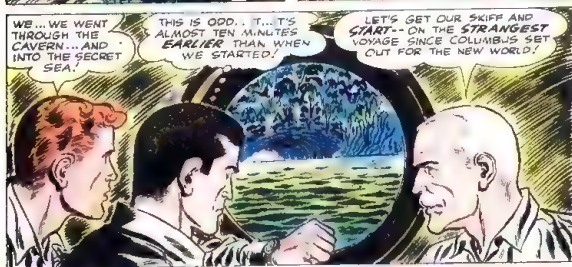
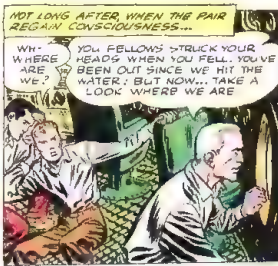
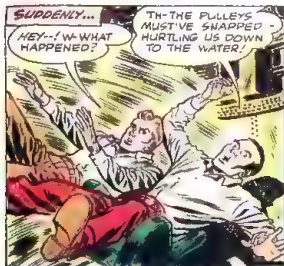
WE KNOW, MR. BENTLEY! BUT YOU DIDN'T ASK US HERE TO TELL US THAT, DID YOU?

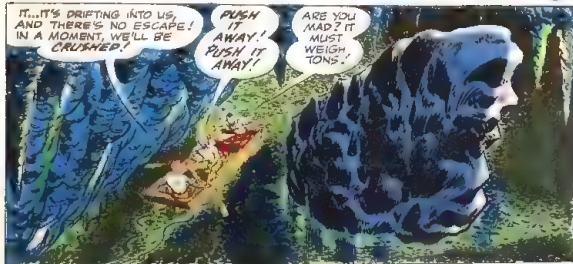
NO, OF COURSE NOT! YOU'LL SOON SEE WHY I SENT FOR YOU! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS ONE?

INTERESTING, LIKE THE OTHERS-- BUT WE'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU GOT TO THE POINT!









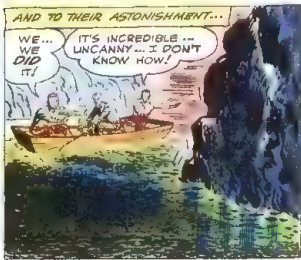
IT...IT'S DRIFTING INTO US,
AND THERE'S NO ESCAPE!
IN A MOMENT, WE'LL BE
CRUSHED!

**PUSH
IT
AWAY!
PUSH IT
AWAY!**

ARE YOU
MAD? IT
MUST
WEIGH
TONS.



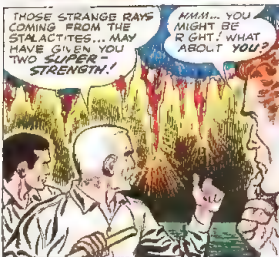
WE'VE GOT TO
DO SOMETHING!
COME ON, JACK...
PUSH!



AND TO THEIR ASTONISHMENT...

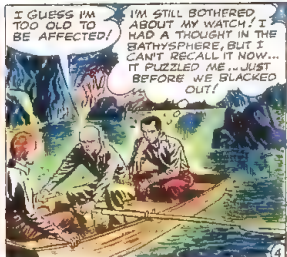
WE...
WE
**DID
IT!**

IT'S INCREDIBLE...
UNCANNY... I DON'T
KNOW HOW!



THOSE STRANGE RAYS
COMING FROM THE
STALACTITES... MAY
HAVE GIVEN YOU
TWO **SUPER-
STRENGTH!**

MMM... YOU
MIGHT BE
RIGHT! WHAT
ABOUT YOU?

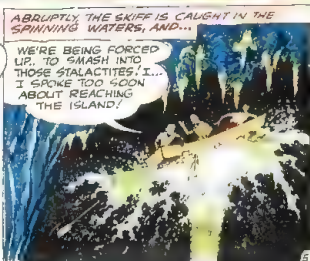
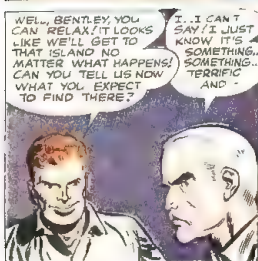
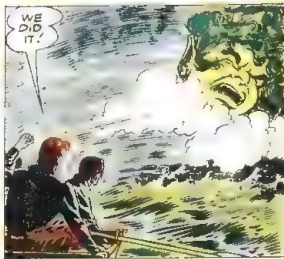
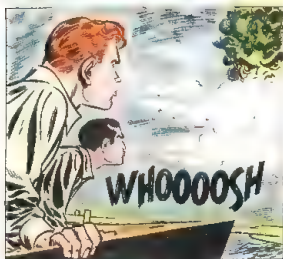
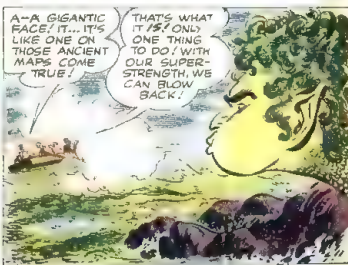
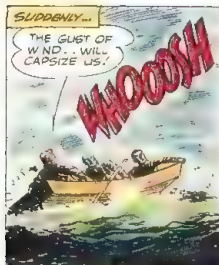


I GUESS I'M
TOO OLD TO
BE AFFECTED!

I'M STILL BOTHERED
ABOUT MY WATCH! I
HAD A THOUGHT IN THE
BATHYSPHERE, BUT I
CAN'T RECALL IT NOW...
IT PUZZLED ME... JUST
BEFORE WE BLACKED
OUT!

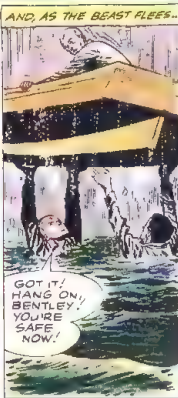
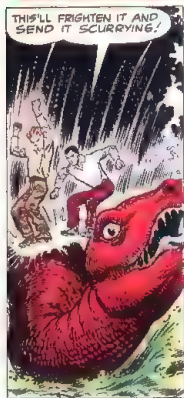


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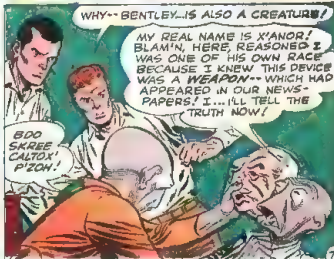
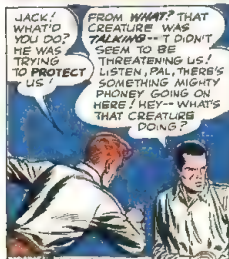
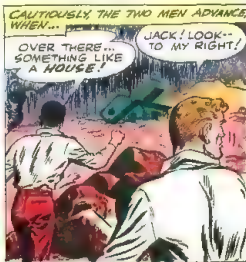
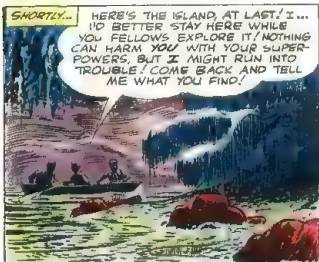


HOUSE OF SECRETS





HOUSE OF SECRETS



I CAN FIGURE IT OUT MYSELF! THAT BATHYS-PHERE WAS REALLY A SPACE SHIP... AND THE MAP SHOWED A REAL UNDERGROUND RIVER ON AN ALIEN PLANET! K'ANOR PROBABLY RELEASED SOME KIND OF GAS THAT PUT US TO SLEEP WHEN WE STARTED!

HOW DO YOU KNOW, JACK?

FOR ONE THING... MY WATCH! WE COULDN'T HAVE ARRIVED HERE TEN MINUTES BEFORE WE STARTED... SO WE MUST HAVE GOTTEN HERE 23 HOURS AND 50 MINUTES AFTER WE STARTED! THAT'S WHY IT SEEMED TEN MINUTES EARLIER! AND...

"...JUST BEFORE WE BLACKED OUT, I HAD A THOUGHT WHICH I FORGOT UNTIL A MOMENT AGO!"

INCREDIBLE! I HAVE A STRANGE SENSATION... AS IF I WERE IN AN ELEVATOR GOING UP-- AND NOT DOWN!

YOU ARE RIGHT! I KNEW YOU EARTH PEOPLE WOULD HAVE SUPER-POWERS ON OUR PLANET, AND COULD HELP ME APPROACH BLAM'N'S ISLAND THROUGH THE UNDERWATER CAVERN... A FEAT NO ONE ON OUR PLANET COULD PERFORM! BUT WITH YOUR HELP...

...I PLANNED TO STEAL BLAM'N'S CAREFULLY-GUARDED INVENTIONS... WHICH WOULD HAVE MADE ME THE MOST POWERFUL BEING ON MY PLANET! THE ONLY OTHER ENTRANCE TO THIS ISLAND IS FROM ABOVE... THROUGH A CLOSELY-GUARDED FORT!

LATER, AFTER ALL HAVE RETURNED TO THE SURFACE...

THERE GOES BLAM'N... BACK HOME!

AND WHAT'VE WE GOT TO SHOW FOR OUR JOURNEY? NOTHING BUT THIS MAP, WHICH ANYBODY WILL THINK WAS MADE CENTURIES AGO!

THE END

THE HAUNTED CAVERNS

ONE eighth of one inch—that made the whole difference. It caused countless deaths. It turned sane, logical men into raving lunatics. It turned a harmless-looking cave into a veritable scourge of mankind. How was this possible? Only after I nearly met my doom did I learn the answer.

They called the place *Cooley's Caverns*, because Samuel Cooley was the first person to explore it, over 200 years ago—and the first man to experience its fatal wrath. Samuel Cooley was one of the early settlers of the territory, and he was quick to discover the cave in the rocks that bounded a nearby lake. No one had paid much attention to this cave until Cooley announced, one morning, that he was going to explore it. In his little rowboat, he disappeared into the small entrance—and he didn't return until two hours later, his eyes glazed, his limbs shuddering.

Beautiful, hypnotic music was the way old Samuel Cooley had described it. Eerie instruments playing a soulful, beckoning melody—and it was all he could do to reverse his course and make his way back to the outside.

Of course, nobody took old Samuel very seriously, even in those days. But when others tried the same exploration, some disappeared forever, some returned with the same story—and many, as I said, simply lost their senses altogether. Before long, no one dared enter the forbidding place known as *Cooley's Caverns*.

But I had to learn the truth. Being an old spelunker, from way back, I welcomed the challenge. So I equipped myself, one day, with all the necessary gear—ropes, pickaxe, dynamite—and, riding a canoe, paddled my way into the ominous darkness.

Almost at once, I heard it—the weird tune which old Samuel Cooley must have heard, over two centuries ago. It had a magnetic qual-

ity to it, and although I could have turned back, right there and then, I felt an urge to track it down.

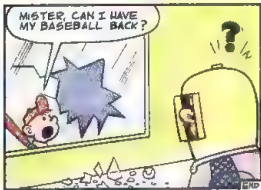
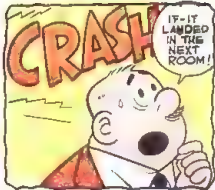
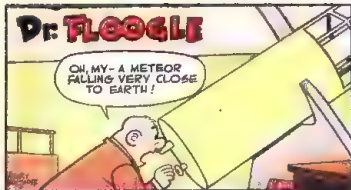
Before long, I was beyond any light provided by the caverns' entrance—and the eerie melody grew louder, more beckoning. And now, I realized, I was being *drawn* to it. It was the most beautiful music I had ever heard, and it threw me into a swoon. There was no need to paddle—the sound grew louder, and there was nothing I could do to stop myself from reaching its source.

And all at once, I found myself in a giant, rock-walled chamber, spinning 'round and 'round. The music was deafening, jarring up and down my spine, rendering me weak and listless. There and then, I realized I was trapped—caught in an inextricable swirl, hypnotized into utter helplessness.

But a moment later, I noticed something else—and I knew I had the answer. It was a tiny opening in the rock, and with my last remaining ounce of will, I fixed a cap to a stick of dynamite, and hurled with all my might. I landed it close enough. A mighty blast resulted in a gaping hole that led to the outside world. I climbed out onto solid land.

As I said, an eighth of an inch was what had made the difference. It was through that tiny opening I'd spotted that the wind had been whistling. It was that minute aperture in the rock that had distorted the wind's vibration into a haunting, magnetic melody. Combine it with a quirk in the current of the water, which drew me to that spot, and the mystery of *Cooley's Caverns* was solved.

Don't bother seeing for yourself, though. That dynamite blast disrupted the entire natural phenomenon. No weird music courses through the giant opening left by my dynamite. *Cooley's Caverns* are just another old cave now.



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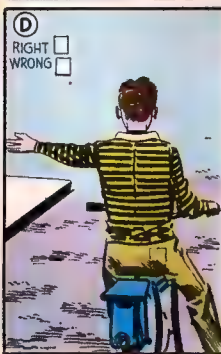
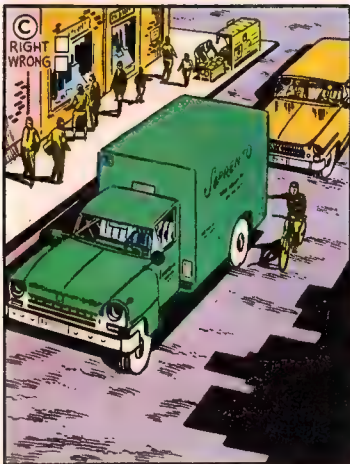
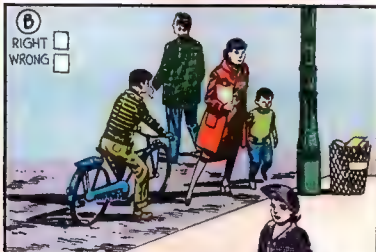
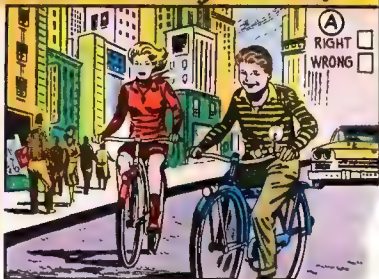
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FIRST READ THESE 12 RULES OF THE BICYCLE INSTITUTE OF AMERICA. THEN PUT AN X IN THE **RIGHT** OR **WRONG** BOX OF EACH PICTURE. ANSWERS IN LAST PANEL, UPSIDE DOWN.

1. OBEY ALL TRAFFIC LIGHTS AND SIGNS.
2. KEEP TO THE RIGHT AND RIDE SINGLE FILE.
3. HAVE WHITE LIGHT ON FRONT OF BIKE, RED LIGHT ON BACK.
4. USE HORN OR BELL TO WARN THOSE AHEAD OF YOU.
5. GIVE PEDESTRIANS THE RIGHT OF WAY.
6. LOOK OUT FOR CARS PULLING OUT INTO TRAFFIC.
7. NEVER HITCH ON OTHER VEHICLES.
8. NEVER CARRY OTHER RIDERS.
9. BE SURE YOUR BRAKES WORK EFFICIENTLY.
10. WALK YOUR BIKE AT BUSY CORNERS.
11. SIGNAL BEFORE YOU TURN OR STOP.
12. DON'T WEAVE IN OR OUT OF TRAFFIC.



ANSWERS

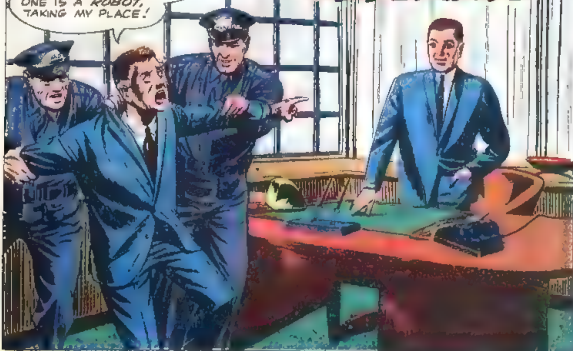
(SEE RULE 11)
 PICTURE D: RIGHT
 (SEE RULE 7)
 PICTURE C: WRONG
 (SEE RULE 5)
 PICTURE B: RIGHT
 (SEE RULE 2)
 PICTURE A: WRONG



ROBERT STEELE COULD RELAX NOW! HE HAD AN ELECTRONIC MARVEL TO TAKE HIS PLACE, AND DO HIS JOB, WHILE HE VACATIONED THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY. A WONDERFUL ARRANGEMENT? YES... BUT HOW COULD HE POSSIBLY FORESEE THAT HE HAD DOOMED THE WORLD WHEN HE WELCOMED...

the DEADLY DUPLICATE

NO, NO, YOU FOOLS! I'M ROBERT STEELE! THAT ONE IS A ROBOT, TAKING MY PLACE!



THIS IS RESEARCH CITY, A SPRAWLING NETWORK OF LABS, WHERE SCIENTISTS STRIVE TO CREATE NEW THINGS FOR A BETTER WORLD...

SORRY... THAT STEEL THREAD STILL LACKS SUFFICIENT TENSILE STRENGTH!

WE'RE RUNNING LOW ON COBALT... BETTER ORDER A NEW SUPPLY TODAY!

THIS NEW PLASTICITE PAINT HAS RESISTED SOLING FOR THREE YEARS ... BUT IT STILL HAS A TENDENCY TO FLAKE OFF!





HOUSE OF SECRETS



AT THE HELM OF THIS GIGANTIC ENTERPRISE IS ONE MAN--ROBERT STEELE...

OH MR STEELE--WILL YOU OKAY THESE NEW TORQUE CONVERTER DESIGNS?

PARDON ME, SIR-- BUT I'D LIKE TO DISCUSS THE TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS THIS AFTERNOON

PLEASE PLEASE, GENTLEMEN! I'LL GET AROUND TO ALL OF YOU... BUT YOU MUST WAIT YOUR TURN.

AS THE EXECUTIVE WEARILY ENTERS HIS SUITE OF OFFICES...

WHY, MR STEELE... I'M SURE I SAW YOU COME IN EARLIER!

HARDLY, MISS MINTON. THE WAY I FEEL, I'M LUCKY TO GET IN AT ALL THIS MORNING! I WISH I HAD TIME FOR A VACATION... I CAN SURE USE IT.

THEN, AS ROBERT STEELE ENTERS HIS PRIVATE CHAMBERS...

WHAT--? WH-WHO ARE YOU?

AS YOU CAN SEE, I AM ROBERT STEELE!

Y-YOU DO LOOK LIKE ME... TALK LIKE ME IDENTICAL IN EVERY DETAIL! I--I'D BETTER CALL THE POLICE!

I HAVE A BETTER IDEA, SIR! MISS MINTON-- SEND IN PROFESSOR WESTRUM, WHO IS WAITING IN THE RECEPTION ROOM!

AS THE PROFESSOR ENTERS...

YOU SEEM STUNNED, MR. STEELE! WELL--EVERYTHING WILL BECOME PERFECTLY CLEAR TO YOU, THE INSTANT I PRESS THIS CONTROL BUTTON...

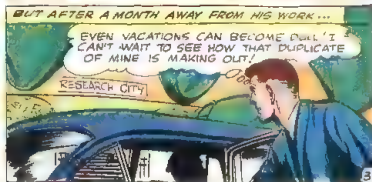
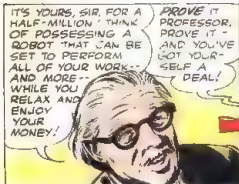
GREAT GUNS!... H-H-H'S A--A RABBIT!

A MORE APT DESCRIPTION, SIR, WOULD BE--A WALKING PLUMB ELECTRONIC

BRAIN... THE FRUIT OF A LIFE-TIME OF LABOR!



HOUSE OF SECRETS





HOUSE OF SECRETS



UPON REACHING HIS PRIVATE OFFICE, HOWEVER...

HI, MISS MINTON.

DON'T "HI" ME! MR. STEELE WARNED ME ALL ABOUT YOU, YOU IMPOSTOR!

PUZZLED, ROBERT STEELE ENTERS HIS PRIVATE SUITE, WHERE...

ER--PROFESSOR WESTRUM HAVENT YOU BEEN PLAYING THIS GAME A BIT TOO FAR?

WHO ARE YOU, SIR? YOU RESEMBLE ME-- BUT I DON'T BELIEVE WE'VE EVER MET!

I GET IT! YOU'RE TRYING TO REPLACE ME WITH THIS METAL JOKESTER! WELL...YOU'RE CRAZY IF YOU THINK YOU'LL GET AWAY WITH IT!

BUT NEXT MOMENT...

THROW THIS IMPOSTOR OUT, GUARDS!

NO, NO!...I'M ROBERT STEELE! SURELY YOU MEN REMEMBER ME! I-I BUILT THIS PLACE!

YOU WERE RIGHT, MR. STEELE--HE'S THE LIVIN' IMAGE OF YOU! BUT HE CAN'T FOOL US!

GET MOVIN', BUD-- BEFORE WE REALLY GET ROUGH!

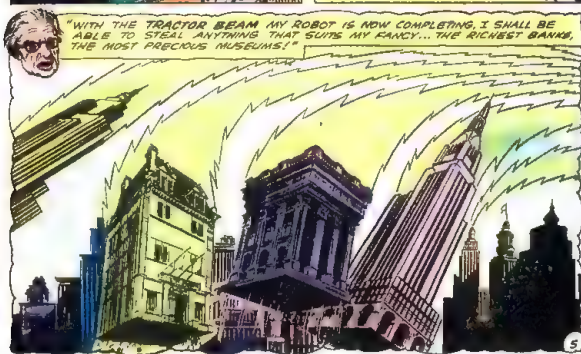
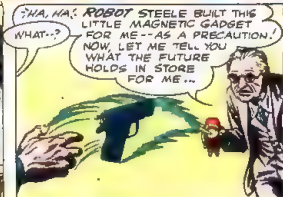
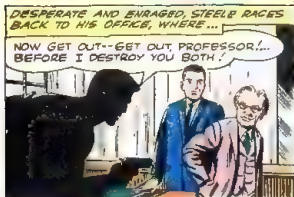
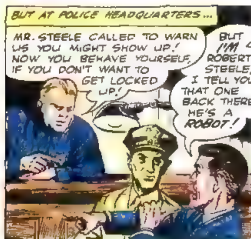
SHORTLY, OUTSIDE THE MAIN GATE...

IT'S CRAZY! TH-THIS CAN'T HAPPEN! THE POLICE...THEY'LL DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!

RESEARCH CITY



HOUSE OF SECRETS





HOUSE OF SECRETS

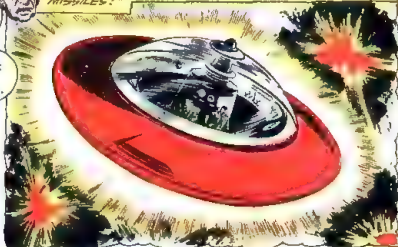


YOU POWER-MAD FOOL. WHY--EVERY NATION ON EARTH WOULD JOIN FORCES TO DESTROY YOU!

YES--I COUNTED ON THAT WHICH IS WHY ROBOT STEELE IS ALSO HARD AT WORK ON OTHER PROJECTS..



"...LIKE A FLYING Fortress, SURROUNDED BY AN ENERGY FIELD THAT CAN REPEL THE NIGHTIEST MISSILES!"



"THEN, IN RETALIATION, I SHALL BLAST THE CITIES BELOW WITH MY SOLAR-GUN!"



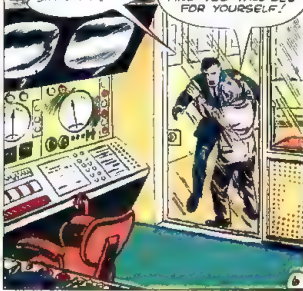
SO YOU SEE, NO POWER ON EARTH CAN STOP ME! I SHALL CONTROL THE WHOLE WORLD... AND YOU MADE IT POSSIBLE, SIR--BY ALLOWING ME TO USE YOUR LABS!

ALLOWING YOU? YOU TRICKED ME!



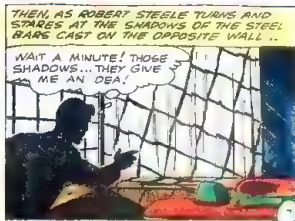
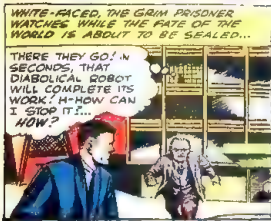
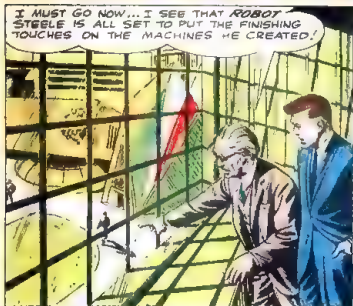
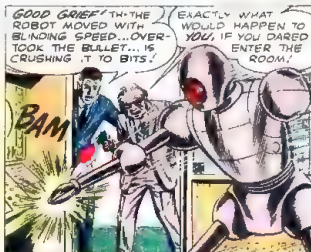
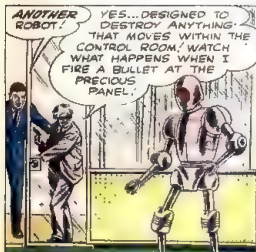
THE BIG ELECTRONIC PANEL IN THERE... IT CONTROLS THE DUPLICATE! I'LL SMASH IT!

WAIT! STEP ONE FOOT INSIDE--AND YOU DIE! GO TAKE A CLOSER LOOK, AND YOU WILL SEE FOR YOURSELF!





HOUSE OF SECRETS



SURE ENOUGH, FAR BELOW, A STRANGE SCENE SUDDENLY OCCURS...

EH--? WHAT'S THE MATTER? WHY ARE YOU QUIVERING?

OH, NO! S-SOMEHOW, STEELE SMASHED THAT CONTROL PANEL! BUT HOW COULD HE GET INSIDE WHILE THE ROBOT GUARD WAS ON DUTY?



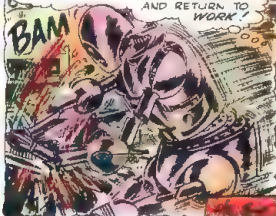
FOR THE ANSWER, WE MUST GO BACK A FEW SECONDS IN TIME...

IT'S WORKING! THE ROBOT GUARD IS GOING AFTER THE SHADOW I'M CASTING ON THE PANEL!



AND AS THE ROBOT FURIOUSLY FLUNG ITSELF ON THE MOVING SHADOW...

DID IT! BY SMASHING THE PANEL, THE ROBOT GUARD DESTROYED ITSELF AND ROBOT STEELE BELOW! NOW TO TAKE CARE OF THE PROFESSOR-- AND RETURN TO WORK!



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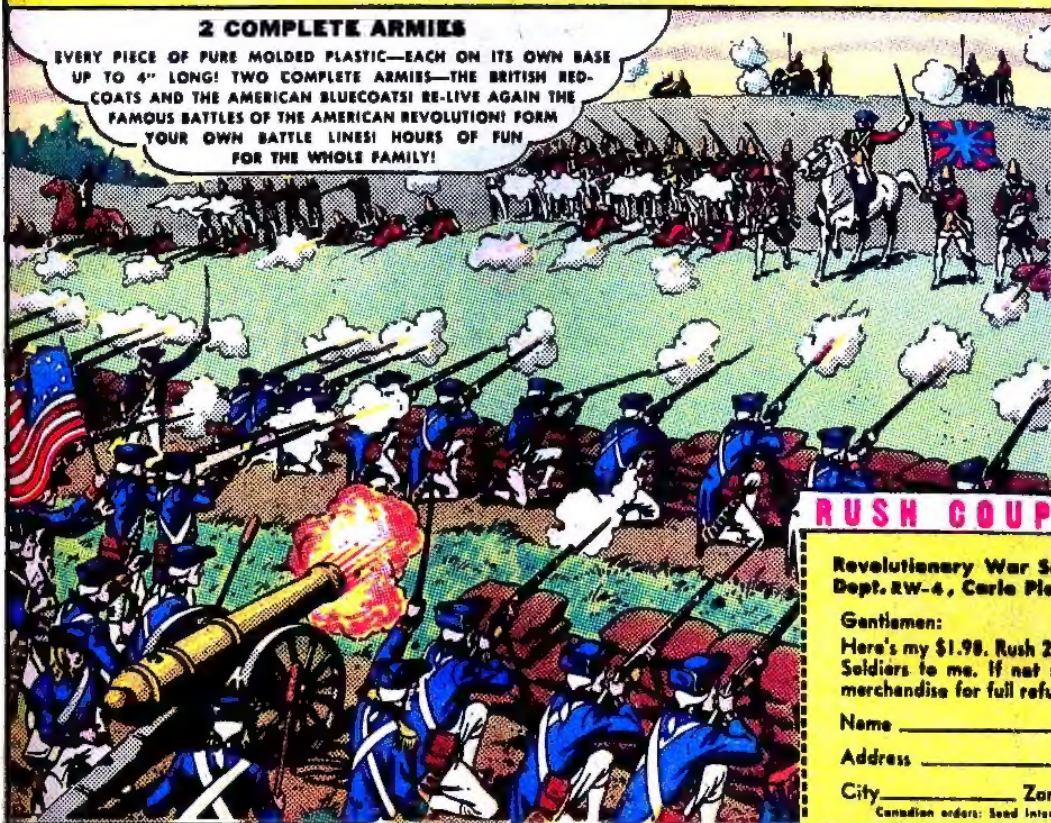
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**SAMPLE A NEW NATURE HOBBY FOR YOU AND YOUR
FAMILY—SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY**



MEET TRICERATOPS, a three-horned dinosaur that roamed the plains of Wyoming a hundred million years ago. His head was so big that it took up about a third of his 25-foot length, but his brain was no larger than your fist!

**Take this thrilling "Tour" through
THE AGE OF THE**

DINOSAURS

for only 10¢

TO HELP
COVER
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CHARGES



THE MOST FIERCIOUS FLESH EATER that ever lived, *Tyrannosaurus Rex* stood 20 feet tall and had a mouthful of vicious teeth 3 to 6 inches long. Although we think of dinosaurs as always being gigan-

tic, some were no larger than chickens! Each month you'll make hundreds of fascinating nature discoveries as a member of this wonderful new program sponsored by the National Audubon Society.

**Discover the world as it was in Prehistoric Times...
and get to know thousands of other fascinating nature
facts in future Album Guides!**



IMAGINE the fun and excitement of taking a thrill-packed "trip" back to the Age of the Dinosaurs, when the largest land animals ever known roamed and ruled the earth! Now, through this unique Nature Program—sponsored by the National Audubon Society—you can see and know the world as it was at the beginning of time: to explore the story of life, and watch life's miraculous development—as certain sea dwellers inhabit the land, and certain land animals, in turn, take to the air in flight! This entire fascinating "tour" is yours to enjoy in the \$2.00-Value Gift Package described below—for only 10¢ to help cover the cost of shipping!

To introduce you to this exciting Nature Program, you can receive for just a dime (1) a magnificent set of 29 full-color photographs showing the most interesting animals of Prehistoric Times; (2) a fact-filled 56-page illustrated Album Guide in which to mount the pictures; and (3) an extra educational handbook on birds.

Here's how the Nature Program works: Each month a different "expedition" is planned, and a set of about 30 full-color prints is issued, together with a 7500-word picture text in which to mount them. Guided by wise, companionable experts, you *explore* nature's closely-guarded secrets—strange, almost unbelievable wonders you can find in nearby parks, or in your own backyard. Best of all, you can *collect* your own "museum-at-home" of albums about all of nature's oddities for your family to enjoy.

And the total cost of these monthly "adventures" is so very low: only \$1.00 for each album and series of pictures, plus a few cents shipping. But you assume no obligation when you send in a dime for your introductory package. You may discontinue your participation at any time. Mail the coupon today to: The Audubon Nature Program, Dept. NC-9, Garden City, N. Y.



WHY DO ELEPHANTS HAVE TRUNKS? Over millions of years, the elephant's ancestor, the mastodon, lost his long lower jaws and tusks for scooping up food. So his nose developed into a trunk to gather food, since his mouth could not reach the ground.



IN FUTURE NATURE PROGRAM ALBUMS you'll discover hundreds of wondrous facts about the world of nature around you. About the great owls who hunt their prey in almost total darkness, the witchhazel seed pod which explodes with the "crack" of rifle shot, and shoots its seeds as far as 45 feet. Yes, every month you'll range through the plant and animal world, finding out about nature's amazing ways!

**THE AUDUBON NATURE PROGRAM
Dept. NC-9, Garden City, New York**

I enclose ten cents. Please send me at once my introductory package consisting of (1) the informative album, "Prehistoric Life", (2) the series of 29 full-color photoprints to mount in the album, and (3) my **EXTRA FREE GIFT**, the illustrated handbook, "Fun With Birds". After examining my introductory package, I will write you within 10 days if I do not wish to continue with the Program. Otherwise, I understand you will send me a new Nature Album complete with a set of color prints every month, for only \$1 each plus shipping. I am not obligated to take any minimum number of future albums, and I may cancel my subscription at any time I wish.

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(If under 16, parent must sign here)

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**HERE'S WHAT YOU GET
FOR JUST A DIME!**

SET OF 29 FULL-COLOR PRINTS showing how the great dinosaurs looked, along with pictures of many other unusual creatures of Prehistoric Times.

HANDSOME ALBUM in which to mount your pictures, with a fact-filled 7500 word "guide" by an expert naturalist.

ILLUSTRATED HANDBOOK "Fun With Birds." Tells how to study and enjoy birds; easy ways to build birdhouses, birdbaths, feeding stations.

IN ADDITION, if you decide to continue, you will receive **FREE** a maroon-and-gold color pull-drawer case to store and protect your albums.